

From: Richard A Martin (DTG)
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 4:06pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

Please read my attached letter...

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am a professor at a technical college, and work as an IT consultant. I acknowledge that there are legitimate reasons that brought about this case three years ago, but Microsoft become powerful not by being a predatory attackers, but by making excellent products. This case should not punish Microsoft for being the industry leader, but should rule that exclusionary practices should be changed. The concerns that give merit to the case have been addressed with the introduction of new Microsoft software, and that provisions are in place under the agreement that will ensure competition in the market.

The concerns of independent vendors, computer makers, and software engineers all have been taken into account to produce licensing and development changes within Microsoft software. Protocol has been set up to ensure that Microsoft remains a responsible industry leader by forming oversight committees and reevaluating future lawsuit guidelines. I do not understand what more can be done at the federal level.

This case has already had an impact on the industry and the economy, and the effects of Microsoft being broken up would be devastating. The loss of standardization and operability would halt innovation, and might jeopardize our country's position as the world leader in technology development. We must resolve this case, and the sooner, the better. The necessary steps have been taken to foster competition, and would like to see the settlement given a chance to prove itself.

Sincerely,

Richard Martin
CEO

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